

a core layer of sound-damping material made to have a predetermined outline smaller than that of said first layer so as to form a peripheral margin of molding material, wherein the margin extends to form a throat; and

C1 a second surface layer of molding material, having an outline similar to that of said first layer and located in substantial registration therewith, bonded to said first layer in the peripheral margin so as to form a sealed core region containing said core layer.

C2 10. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the core defines a trapezoid.

11. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the margin is a solid structure.

12. The loudspeaker component of claim 11, wherein the first flange and the second flange are defined by a first state as individual pieces and a second state in which the first flange and the second flange are homogeneous so as to form a single, indistinguishable piece.

C3 13. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein each of the first flange and the second flange are defined by a first state as individual pieces and a second state as a single homogenous mass of cured molding material.

C4 14. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the first flange and the second flange extend away from one another at an acute angle.

15. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the first layer, the sound damping material, and the second layer comprise a no more than three-layer laminate.

16. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the sound damping material comprises a mineral-filled damping material.

17. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the sound damping material comprises a solid material.

18. The loudspeaker component of claim 17, wherein the solid sound damping material comprises a vinyl copolymer compound.

19. The loudspeaker component of claim 17, wherein the solid sound damping material comprises a silicon rubber compound.

20. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the sound damping material comprises balsa wood.

21. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein each of the first layer, the sound damping material, and the second layer defined a thickness, and wherein the thickness of each of the first layer, the sound damping material, and the second layer is equal.

22. The loudspeaker component of claim 21, wherein the thickness is equal to a multiple of approximately 0.125 inches.

23. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein a collective of the margin and the three-layer laminate defines a thickness that is substantially constant throughout the margin and the three-layer laminate.

24. The loudspeaker component of claim 9, wherein the first layer is one of a sheet molding compound, a low pressure molding compound, a bulk molding compound, a thick molding compound, a fiberglass filled epoxy resin, a fiberglass filled polyether resin, and a fiberglass filled polyester resin in a styrene monomer.

25. A loudspeaker component, comprising:  
a first layer;  
a second layer, wherein the second layer is fixed to the first layer so as to define a core and a margin, wherein the margin comprises a first flange and a second flange, and wherein the first and second flanges extend to form a throat; and  
sound damping material disposed in the core so as to be completely encased by the first layer and the second layer.

26. The loudspeaker component of claim 25, wherein the core defines a trapezoid.

27. The loudspeaker component of claim 25, wherein the margin is a solid structure.

28. The loudspeaker component of claim 27, wherein the first layer, the sound damping material, and the second layer comprise a three-layer laminate and wherein the first flange and the second flange extend to raise the three-layer laminate so that an interior surface of the second layer defines a throat.

29. The loudspeaker component of claim 28, wherein the first flange and the second flange extend away from one another at an acute angle.

30. The loudspeaker component of claim 29, wherein a collective of the margin and the three-layer laminate defines a thickness that is substantially constant throughout the margin and the three-layer laminate.

**REMARKS**

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Ni for his courteous and helpful discussion held with Applicants' representatives on January 17, 2002. Applicants' representatives and